



Vacation Planner 2016



Share your story with us on social media. Search for “GlacierNPS” today!

Things to Do



HIKING

With over 700 miles of trails, good day hikes are plentiful in Glacier. Free maps to popular trails are available at park visitor centers. Visitor center bookstores also carry a complete line of trail guides, topographic maps, and field guides to aid hikers. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/hike



FISHING

To fish in Glacier, a license is not required, but there are regulations that need to be followed. The fishing season is from the third Saturday in May to November 30. Lakes are open year-round. Several bodies of water are either closed to fishing or are catch-and-release only. Use of bait, lead weights, and sinkers is prohibited. For complete regulations visit: go.nps.gov/fishing



Dad and son fishing. PHOTO / CHRIS DOWNS



RANGER-LED ACTIVITIES

Programs start mid-June and conclude in September. Activities include easy walks, evening talks, boat tours, all-day hikes, and photography programs. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/activities



Ranger tour on Lake McDonald. NPS PHOTO



BICYCLING

Bicyclists are responsible for complying with all traffic regulations at all times. Keep to the right side of the road, ride in single file, and pull over if four or more vehicles stack up behind you. During periods of low visibility or between sunset and sunrise, a white light or reflector visible from a distance of at least 500 feet in front and a red light or reflector visible from at least 200 feet to the rear must be displayed on the operator or bicycle. Bicycles are prohibited on most trails. Watch for falling rocks, drainage grates, debris, and ice on the road. Helmets are recommended. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/bike



BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING

Hikers planning to camp overnight in Glacier’s backcountry must obtain a Backcountry Use Permit. Half of Glacier’s backcountry sites can be reserved in advance. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/backcountry



WILDLIFE WATCHING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

The best lighting and opportunity for viewing animals are at dusk and dawn. Glacier offers short walks that can reward wildlife watchers. Be sure to keep a 100 yards from bears and wolves and 25 yards from all other wildlife. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/photography



Watching loons on Lake McDonald. NPS PHOTO

Entrance Fees

Vehicle Pass \$30.00
Valid for 7 days

Single Person Entry \$15.00
By foot, bicycle, or motorcycle for 7 days

Glacier National Park Pass \$45.00
Valid for 1 year from month of purchase

The Federal Lands Annual Pass (\$80), Senior Pass (\$10), Access Pass (free), and Military Pass (free) are available at Park Headquarters and park entrance stations. Special fees are charged for commercial vehicles.

Glacier National Park and Waterton Lakes National Park charge separate entrance fees. There is no single fee that covers entrance into both parks.



BOATING

A free inspection and permit are required to launch all motorized/trailered boats in the park. To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species, please thoroughly clean, drain, and dry all of your boating, wading, and fishing equipment before coming to the park. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/boat



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Have Fun and Stay Safe

WEATHER

Glacier’s summer weather is as varied as its landscape. Even when it’s in the 80s and 90s in the daytime, it can cool down into the 40s at night. Prepare for a variety of weather conditions and pack accordingly. You may start the day in a T-shirt and shorts, and need a sweater or parka by evening. Dress in layers and always bring rain gear!

HYPOTHERMIA

Freezing temperatures can occur in Glacier’s high country any month of the year. If you plan to head for higher elevations, avoid making assumptions based on low elevation weather. Layer with synthetic or wool clothing as a base layer, and eat high-energy foods throughout the day.

DROWNING

Use extreme caution near water. Swift, cold glacial streams and rivers, moss-covered rocks, and slippery logs are dangerous. Avoid wading in or fording swift streams. Never walk, play, or climb on slippery rocks and logs, especially around waterfalls. When boating, don’t stand up or lean over the side, and always wear a life jacket.

STEEP TERRAIN

Many accidents occur when people fall after stepping off trails or roadsides, or by venturing onto very steep slopes. Stay on designated trails and don’t go beyond protective fencing or guard rails. Supervise children in such areas. At upper elevations, trails should be followed carefully.

SNOW AND ICE

Snowfields and glaciers can present serious hazards. Snow bridges may conceal deep crevasses on glaciers or hidden cavities under snowfields. These bridges may collapse under the weight of an unsuspecting hiker. Use extreme caution when crossing steep snowfields on trails and in the backcountry.

HANTAVIRUS

Deer mice are possible carriers of Hantavirus. The most likely source of infection is from rodent urine and droppings inhaled as aerosols or dust. Initial symptoms are almost identical to the onset of flu. If you have potentially been exposed and exhibit flu-like symptoms, you should seek medical care immediately.

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Never hike alone. Make noise often and keep children close to you at all times. If you do encounter a lion, do not run. Talk calmly, avert your gaze, stand tall, and back away. If an attack seems imminent, stand your ground. Lions may be scared away by being struck with rocks or sticks, or by being kicked or hit.

TICKS

Ticks are most active in spring and early summer. Several serious diseases, like Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, can be transmitted. Completely remove attached ticks and disinfect the site. If rashes or lesions form around the bite, or if unexplained symptoms occur, consult a physician.

General Information



LODGING

For Swiftcurrent Motor Inn, Lake McDonald Lodge, Rising Sun Motor Inn, Many Glacier Hotel, and Village Inn: Glacier National Park Lodges (855) 733-4522 GlacierNationalParkLodges.com

For Motel Lake McDonald and Apgar Village Lodge: Glacier Park, Inc. (406) 892-2525 GlacierParkInc.com

For Granite Park and Sperry Chalets: Belton Chalets, Inc. (888) 345-2649 GraniteParkChalet.com SperryChalet.com

For additional lodging outside the park: State of Montana Tourism (800) 847-4868 VisitMT.com



Lake McDonald Lodge lobby

NPS PHOTO



BUS TOURS

Blackfeet Cultural Tours: Sun Tours (800) 786-9220 GlacierSunTours.com

Red Bus Tours: Glacier National Park Lodges (855) 733-4522 GlacierNationalParkLodges.com



BOAT TOURS AND RENTALS

Glacier Park Boat Company (406) 257-2426 GlacierParkBoats.com



CAMPING

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds. Primitive campsites have no water available. Fires are permitted only in campgrounds and picnic areas where grates are provided. Utility hookups are not provided. Hiker/biker sites hold up to 8 people and the fee is \$5 per person.

All of Fish Creek and St. Mary, five group sites in Apgar, and half the sites in Many Glacier campgrounds may be reserved through the National Park Service reservation system. For more information call (877) 444-6777 or visit: recreation.gov



HORSEBACK RIDES

At Apgar, Lake McDonald Lodge, and Many Glacier. Swan Mountain Outfitters (877) 888-5557 SwanMountainOutfitters.com/glacier



CAMPSTORES AND GIFT SHOPS

Eddie's Campstore, The Cedar Tree, Schoolhouse Gifts, and Montana House of Gifts are in Apgar Village • Lake McDonald Lodge Gift Shop and Lake McDonald Lodge Campstore are at Lake McDonald • Many Glacier Hotel Gift Shop, Swiftcurrent Campstore, and Heidi's are in Many Glacier • Rising Sun Campstore is at Rising Sun • Two Medicine Campstore is in Two Medicine.



Apgar Village

NPS PHOTO



RESTAURANTS

Eddie's Restaurant is at Apgar Village • Russell's Fireside Dining Room and Jammer Joe's Grill and Pizzeria are in the Lake McDonald Lodge area • Ptarmigan Dining Room and Italian Garden Ristorante are at Many Glacier • Two Dog Flats Grill is at Rising Sun.



ACCESSIBILITY

Glacier National Park is a spectacular mountain landscape that can present difficult challenges for visitors with special needs. Improvements in accessibility are being made each year and with a bit of pre-planning, all visitors can find Glacier to be a rewarding experience. A listing of Glacier's accessible facilities and programs is available online at: go.nps.gov/accessibility



GUIDED HIKING TRIPS

Glacier Guides, Inc. (800) 521-7238 GlacierGuides.com



VISITOR CENTERS AND RANGER STATIONS

The park has three visitor centers located at Apgar, Logan Pass, and St. Mary. The park also has ranger stations located at Polebridge, Two Medicine, Many Glacier, and Goat Haunt. All visitor centers and ranger stations are closed for the winter except for the Apgar Visitor Center which is open on weekends only.



FIREARMS

The possession of loaded firearms is legal in national parks, although firearms are prohibited in federal facilities. Check with the state of Montana for specifics at: doj.mt.gov/enforcement/concealed-weapons



CELL SERVICE

The Apgar and East Glacier areas offer coverage from most service providers. The St. Mary area offers limited coverage depending on your service provider. All other areas in the park have no coverage.



PETS

Pets are permitted in campgrounds, along roads, and in parking areas. Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet, under physical restraint, or caged at all times. Pet owners must pick up after their pets and dispose of waste properly. Pets are not to be left unattended and are not permitted on trails, in the backcountry, or in any building.



Pet safely enjoying the view.

NPS PHOTO



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Park Website

nps.gov/GLAC

Mailing Address

Park Headquarters
PO Box 128
West Glacier, MT 59936

Park Headquarters

(406) 888-7800

Vacation Planner Provided By

The Glacier National Park Conservancy is the official non-profit fundraising partner of Glacier National Park. Online at: GlacierConservancy.org



Glacier National Park
CONSERVANCY



Our classrooms are the mountain trails and vast river basins. We host one, two and three-day outdoor educational workshops and youth camps which immerse our participants in Glacier's stunning and stimulating environment. Join us for a learning adventure you will never forget.

The Glacier Institute
(406) 755-1211
GlacierInstitute.org

Campground Information

Estimated Dates	Fee	Sites	Group Sites	Flush Toilets	Disposal Station	Hiker Biker	For Larger RV's and Additional Information
Apgar May–mid-Oct.	\$20.00	192	10	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 25 sites have a maximum parking space of 40'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Avalanche June–early Sept.	\$20.00	87		Yes		Yes	The largest 50 sites have a maximum parking space of 26'.
Bowman Lake mid-May–mid-Oct.	\$15.00	48					Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Cut Bank June–early Sept	\$10.00	19					Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping only, no potable water.
Fish Creek June–early Sept.	\$23.00	180		Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 18 sites have a maximum parking space of 35'. 62 additional sites will accommodate up to 27'.
Kintla Lake mid-June–mid-Sept.	\$15.00	13					Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Logging Creek July–Sept.	\$10.00	8					Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping only, no potable water.
Many Glacier late May–Sept.	\$20.00	110	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 13 sites have a maximum parking space of 35'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Quartz Creek July–Nov.	\$10.00	7					Campground accessible by dirt road, large units not recommended. Primitive camping only, no potable water.
Rising Sun late May–mid-Sept.	\$20.00	84		Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 10 sites have a maximum parking space of 25'.
Sprague Creek mid-May–mid-Sept.	\$20.00	25		Yes		Yes	No towed units. Some sites have a maximum parking space of 21'.
St. Mary late May–Sept.	\$23.00	148	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	Three sites up to 40' and 22 sites up to 35'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.
Two Medicine late May–Sept.	\$20.00	100	1	Yes	Yes	Yes	The largest 10 sites have a maximum parking space of 35'. Primitive camping is available after listed dates.

Welcome to Bear Country

AN ICON OF WILDERNESS

Glacier is home to large numbers of both black and grizzly bears. This page presents basic information needed to ensure a safe visit for both you and our wildlife. For more detailed information, stop by any visitor center, attend a ranger program, or visit us online at: [go.nps.gov/bearCountry](https://www.nps.gov/bearCountry)

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

Our campgrounds and developed areas can remain unattractive to bears if each visitor manages food and trash properly. Following park regulations will help keep the “wild” in wild-life and ensure your safety as well.

- Keep a clean camp! Never improperly store or leave food and garbage unattended.
- All edibles, food containers (empty or not), and cookware (clean or not) must be stored in a vehicle, hard-sided camper, food locker, or hung when not in use, day or night.
- Place all trash in designated bear-resistant garbage containers.
- Inspect your campsite for bear sign and for careless campers nearby. Notify a park ranger of any potential problems.
- Pets, especially dogs, must be kept under physical restraint.

BEAR SPRAY

This aerosol pepper spray temporarily incapacitates bears. It is an effective, non-toxic, and non-lethal means of deterring aggressive bears. Under no circumstances should bear spray create a false sense of security or serve as a substitute for practicing standard safety precautions in bear country.

Bear spray is intended to be sprayed into the face of an oncoming bear. It is not intended to act as a repellent. Pre-sprayed objects may actually attract bears.

Be aware that you may not be able to cross the U.S./Canada border with some brands of bear spray. Canadian Customs will allow the importation of USEPA-approved bear spray into Canada. Specifications state that the bear spray must have USEPA on the label.

BEAR ENCOUNTERS

If you encounter a bear inside the minimum recommended safe distance (100 yards), you can decrease your risk by following these guidelines:

- If a bear or other animal is moving in your direction on a trail, get out of its way and let it pass.
- If you can move away, do so. If moving away appears to agitate the bear, stop and talk quietly to the bear. Help the bear recognize you as a friendly human. Then continue to move away as the situation allows.
- If a bear appears intent on approaching you, your group, or your campsite in a non-defensive manner (not showing signs of agitation), gather your group together, make noise, and try to discourage the bear from further approaching. Prepare to deploy your bear spray. If you are preparing or consuming food, secure it. **DO NOT LET THE BEAR GET YOUR FOOD!**
- If a bear approaches in a defensive manner (appears agitated and/or charges), stop. Do not run. Talk quietly to the bear. Prepare to deploy your bear spray. If contact appears imminent and you do not have bear spray, fall to the ground on your stomach, clasp your hands around the back of your neck, and leave your pack on for protection. If the bear attempts to roll you over, try to stay on your stomach. If the attack is defensive, the bear will leave once it recognizes you are not a threat. If the attack is prolonged, **FIGHT BACK!**

ROADSIDE BEARS

It’s exciting to see bears up close, but we must act responsibly to keep them wild and healthy. If you see a bear along the road, please do not stop near it. If you wish to view the bear, travel at least 100 yards and pull over in a safe location. Roadside bears quickly become habituated to traffic and people, increasing their chances of being hit by vehicles. Habituated bears may also learn to frequent campgrounds and picnic areas, where they may gain access to human food. To protect human life and property, bears that seek human food must be removed from the park. Resist the temptation to stop and get close to roadside bears – put bears first at Glacier.

Safety Precautions

Hike in groups.

Hiking in groups significantly decreases your chances of having a bear encounter. If you are looking for hiking company, be sure to look at the *Ranger-led Activity Schedule* to see if there are any ranger-led hikes available for you to join. Trail running is highly discouraged.

Carry bear spray.

Bear spray is an inexpensive way to deter bear attacks and has been shown to be the most effective deterrent.

Make noise.

Bears will usually move out of the way if they hear people approaching. Most bells are not enough. Calling out and clapping at regular intervals are better ways to make your presence known.

Secure your food and garbage.

Never leave food, garbage, or anything used to prepare, consume, store, or transport food unattended. Other items include: toiletries, cosmetics, and pet food.

Be aware of your surroundings.

Environmental factors such as wind speed and direction may prevent a bear from being aware of your presence. Look for scat or tracks. Take notice if you are hiking near an abundance of bear foods, near running water, through thick vegetation, etc.



Black bear looking for picnic scraps near the road.

PHOTO / BILL HAYDEN



Never leave packs unattended.

PHOTO / TERRY DOSSEY



Black bear near the road.

PHOTO / TIM RAINS

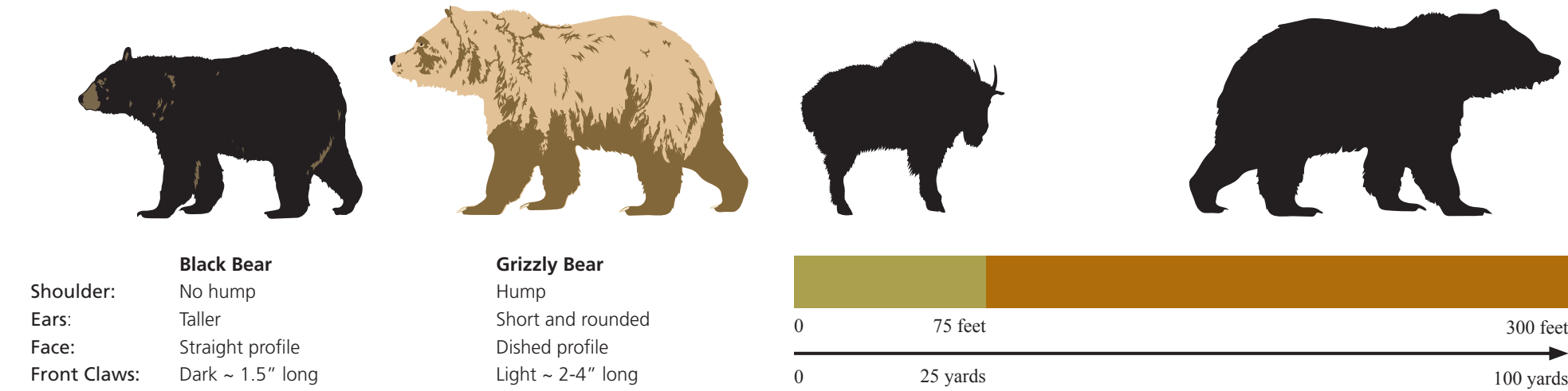
A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR! PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL FOOD AND GARBAGE ARE STORED OUT OF REACH OF BEARS AT ALL TIMES.

GRIZZLY OR BLACK BEAR

Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is home to both black and grizzly bears. Report all bear sightings or encounters to the nearest ranger or warden immediately. Size and/or color are not reliable indicators of species. Use the chart below to help you tell the species apart.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE

Approaching, viewing, or engaging in any activity within 100 yards of bears or wolves, or within 25 yards of ANY OTHER WILDLIFE is prohibited. Use binoculars or a telephoto lens to improve your view. Keep the animal’s line of travel or escape route clear and move away if wildlife approaches you.



Roads and Travel



DRIVING TO GLACIER

Approach from the east via U.S. Highways 2 and 89. U.S. Highway 2 is also the primary access route from the west. In Canada, Alberta Highways 5 and 6 provide direct access to Waterton Lakes National Park, while Alberta Highway 2 continues across the border providing access to the east side of Glacier. Glacier’s road updates are available by dialing 511 (a free call) on any Montana phone.



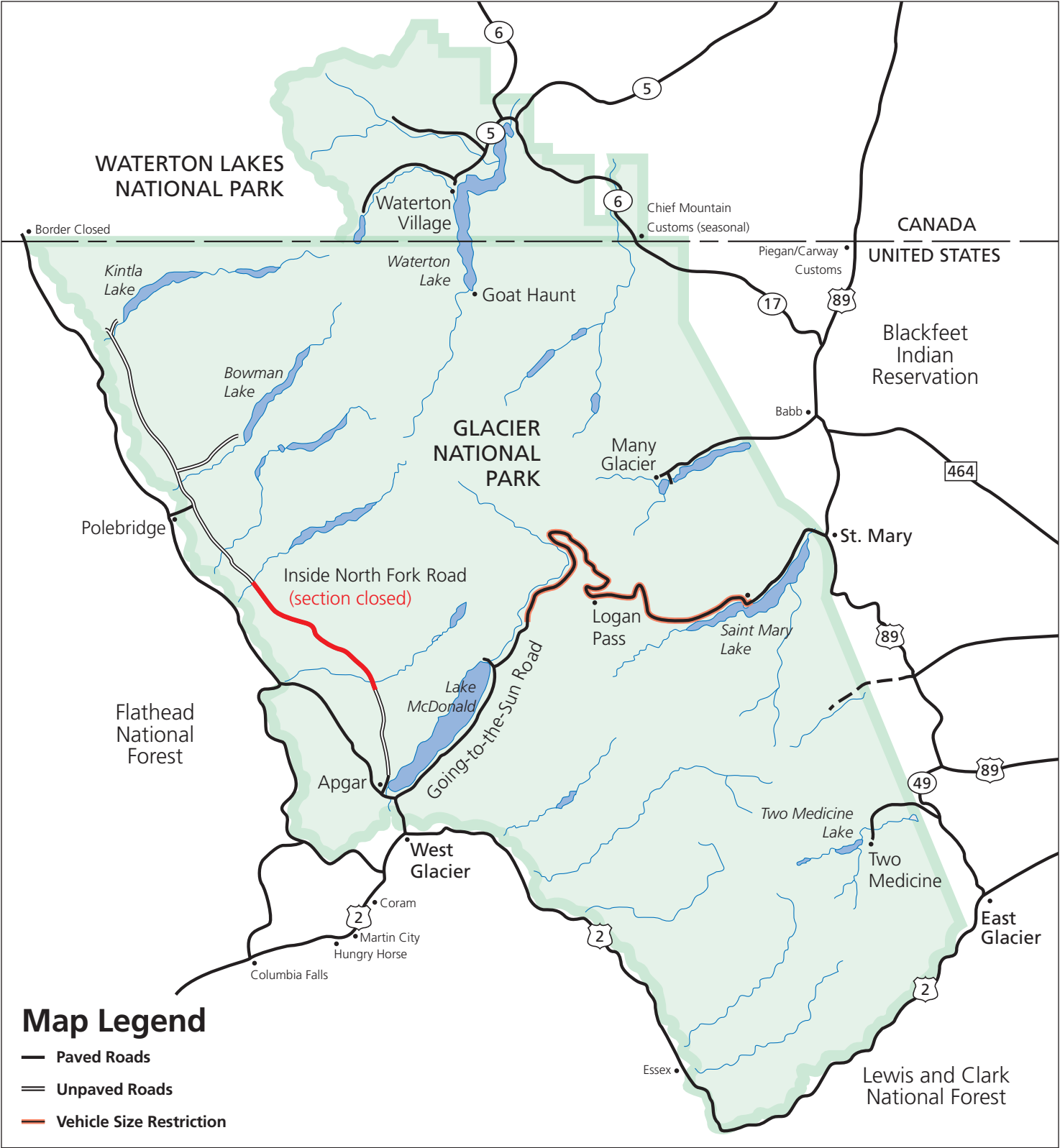
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Amtrak stops year-round at West Glacier (Belton), Izaak Walton Inn at Essex, and seasonally at East Glacier. Bus service may be available to locations outside the park. The nearest airports in Montana are located in Kalispell, Missoula, and Great Falls.



SHUTTLE SERVICES

Glacier’s shuttle system operates on Going-to-the-Sun Road from early July through Labor Day. It travels between Apgar Visitor Center and St. Mary Visitor Center with a transfer at Logan Pass. Stops include key visitor facilities, campgrounds, and trailheads. There is no additional charge to ride the shuttle, no tickets are required, and stops are clearly marked along Going-to-the-Sun Road. Bus schedules are posted at each shuttle stop, inside visitor centers, and online at: go.nps.gov/shuttle

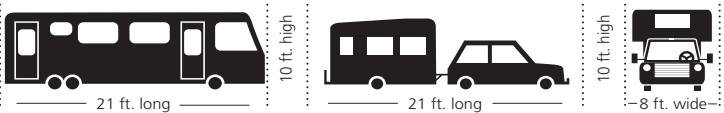


ROAD REHABILITATION

Portions of Going-to-the-Sun Road remain open year-round. For 2016, road rehabilitation will continue with the primary focus in the St. Mary area near the visitor center. Visitors should anticipate construction related delays (30 minutes max) starting in August, when repairs will begin to masonry walls damaged from avalanches on the west side of Logan Pass. Work is also anticipated to begin on the Lake McDonald segment of Going-to-the-Sun Road. There are no expected nighttime delays. Logan Pass will remain accessible until the third week of October, weather permitting.

VEHICLE SIZE RESTRICTIONS

Vehicles and vehicle combinations longer than 21 feet (including bumpers) or wider than 8 feet (including mirrors), are prohibited between Avalanche Campground and Rising Sun. Vehicle and vehicle combinations over 10 feet in height may have difficulty driving west from Logan Pass to the Loop, due to rock overhangs. Stock vehicles are able to access Packers Roost and Siyeh Bend.



Going-to-the-Sun Road

Crossing The International Border

WHAT YOU NEED

All travelers crossing the border must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) compliant. Those documents include:

- U.S. Citizens must present a U.S. Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, U.S. Passport Card, or NEXUS Card.
- U.S. Resident Aliens must present a U.S. Resident Alien Card.
- Canadian citizens must present a Canadian Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, or NEXUS Card.
- Citizens from countries other than Canada or the United States must present a valid passport and a current I-94 or an I-94W. I-94 forms are available at the Port of Entry for \$6 U.S. currency and all major credit cards are accepted. Canadian currency is not accepted.

* For states and provinces who currently issue Enhanced Drivers Licenses, please visit: www.getyouhome.gov

Special restrictions apply when crossing the border with pets, defensive sprays, alcohol, firewood, and purchases. All firearms must be declared. For more information on crossing from the USA to Canada, call (800) 320-0063; and if crossing from Canada to the USA, call (406) 889-3865.

TRAVEL TO, FROM, AND THROUGH GOAT HAUNT

Travel between Waterton Lakes National Park and the Goat Haunt Ranger Station, either by boat or by foot on the Waterton Lake Trail, requires an official government issued photo identification card for U.S. or Canadian citizens or permanent residents. All others must carry a valid passport.

Persons seeking to travel beyond the Goat Haunt Ranger Station into the United States must present documents that are WHTI compliant.

The Goat Haunt Port of Entry will operate between 11 am and 5 pm. No entry into the United States past the Goat Haunt Ranger Station will be authorized outside of the port’s hours of operation. Hikers traveling north into Canada from the United States are required to contact the Chief Mountain Port of Entry upon their arrival at the Waterton townsite. Information on contacting the Port of Entry is available at the Waterton Lakes Visitor Centre or the Waterton Station of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Border Crossings

Times are subject to change. Check before your trip to be sure about crossing times.

ROOSVILLE

24 hours, year-round
west of the park on Highway 93, north of Whitefish, MT and south of Fernie, B.C.

PIEGAN/CARWAY

7 am to 11 pm
east of the park at the joining of U.S. Highway 89 with Alberta Highway 2

CHIEF MOUNTAIN

5/15 to 5/31	9 am to 6 pm
6/1 to 9/1	7 am to 10 pm
9/2 to 9/30	9 am to 6 pm
October 1	closed for season